



Oxford Read and Discover

# Exploring Our World

Jacqueline Martin

**Read and discover all about explorers  
and exploring ...**

- **Why is exploring important?**
- **Where did the first explorers go?**

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600 headwords



**Level 5**  
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**Level 4**  
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**Level 6**  
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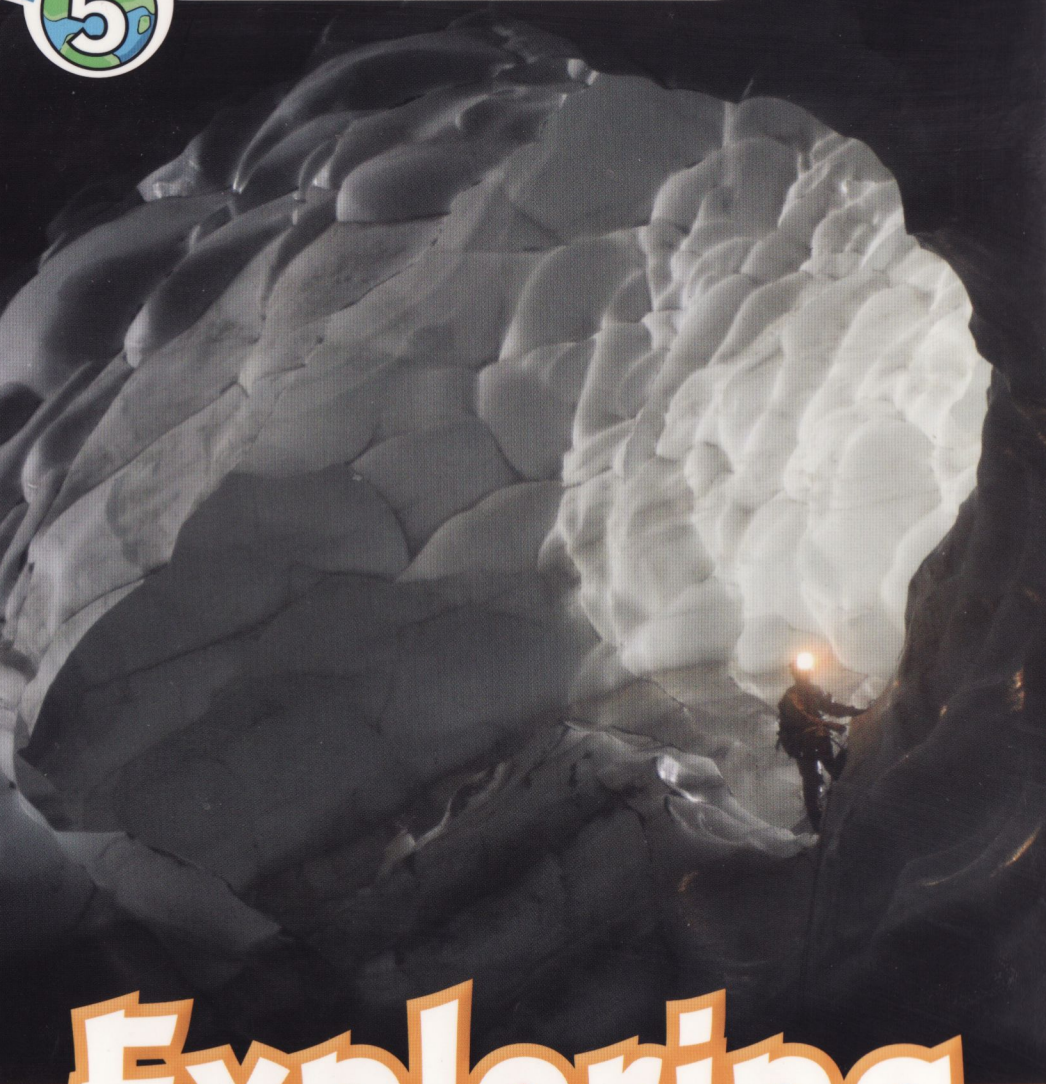


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# Introduction

Explorers are people who leave their home to discover new places, or to learn new things about people, plants, or animals. To learn more about our world, they go on exciting journeys through forests, across hot or icy deserts, up mountains, or down rivers.

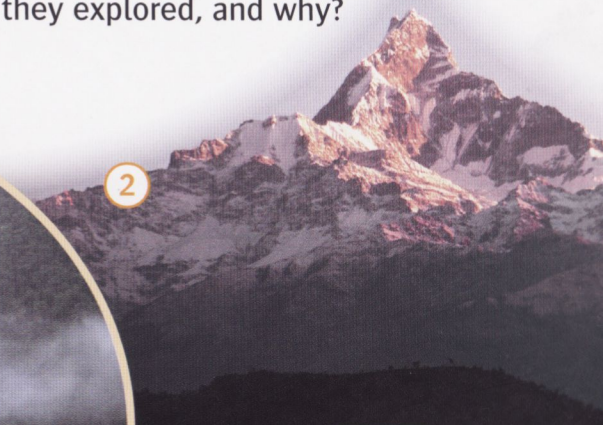
Do you know about any famous explorers?

Do you know what places they explored, and why?

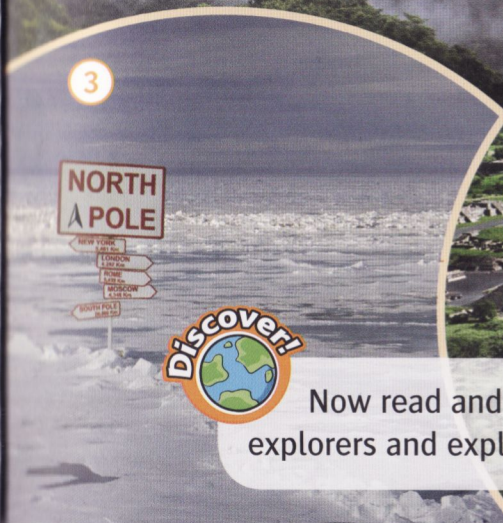
Where are these places?



2



3



4



Now read and discover more about explorers and exploring our world!



# 1

# Exploring

Thousands of years ago, early people knew about only a very small part of the world. Today we know a lot more, and some of our information comes from explorers. Explorers have changed the world!



## Why Do People Explore?

Early people traveled around to find food and water. Most explorers travel because they are curious and want to discover new places and to learn new things. Some early explorers hoped to get rich by discovering new plants, animals, or treasures, and by selling them when they got home. Today, explorers travel to have an adventure, to learn more about remote places, to find something new to help science, or maybe to be famous.



## Where Do People Explore?

Early explorers wanted to find new places or people. They crossed land and explored deserts, forests, rivers, and mountains. Then they started to explore the oceans. Today, many explorers want to be the first to go somewhere a new way. Some try to find a different route, or look for new ways to travel. Others want to be the youngest, the fastest, or the first to do something, for example, climb a mountain.



An Italian explorer called Reinhold Messner was the first person to climb all 14 mountains that are more than 8,000 meters high.

## How Do People Explore?

Early explorers used only the stars to find their way. Explorers wanted to share what they found, so they wrote about their journeys and made maps. On the maps they drew mountains, rivers, and other things that they had seen, to make it easier for other travelers to follow the same route.



An Early Map

About 2,200 years ago, Chinese people invented the compass. A compass always points north, so it tells you which direction you are traveling in. GPS instruments that use satellites help modern explorers to find out where they are.

A Modern Explorer Using a GPS Instrument





## Why Is Exploring Important?

Information from some early explorers has helped people to make maps to show what the world is like. The things that they wrote tell us what life was like a long time ago in the places that they visited.

Explorers have learned about new plants and animals, discovered new materials, and learned new languages. They have also discovered inventions, and different ways of doing things, for example, new ways of farming.

### Scientists in the Amazon Rainforest



Modern explorers are still finding new things. Scientists hope that in the future, they will find cures for many diseases in the rainforests and the oceans.



# 2

## Early Explorers

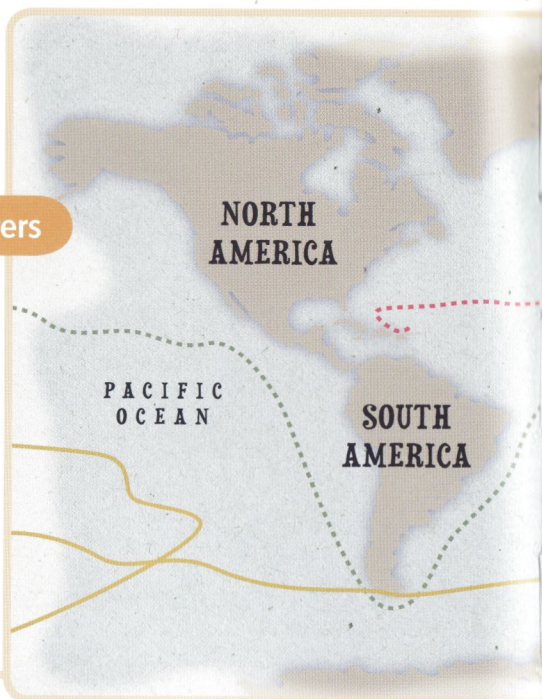
Early people traveled around to look for food, but they weren't explorers. Explorers go from their home land to discover something about another place, and then they come back and tell people what they found.

### Early People

People have lived in most parts of the world for thousands of years. Scientists think that early people started in Africa and traveled to Asia. By about 40,000 years ago, there were people in almost every part of Africa, Asia, and Europe. By about 15,000 years ago they moved into America.

#### Routes of Famous Early Explorers

- Zhang Qian
- Marco Polo
- Ibn Battuta
- Zheng He
- Bartolomeu Dias
- ... Christopher Columbus
- ..... Vasco da Gama
- ..... Ferdinand Magellan
- ..... Abel Tasman
- James Cook

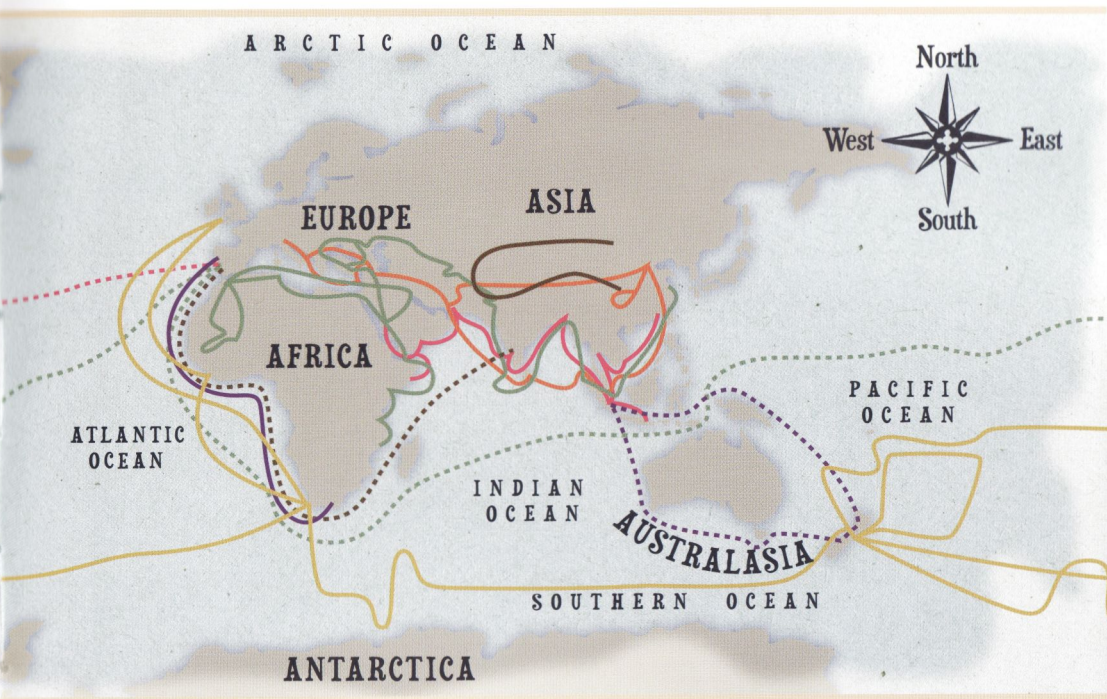


## Famous Early Explorers

Zhang Qian was an early explorer from China. He explored many other parts of Asia more than 2,100 years ago. Other people followed his route to trade silk from Asia with things from Europe. The route that he took is now called the Silk Road.

Marco Polo was an explorer from Venice, now in Italy. In 1271, he traveled from Europe to China. When he returned to Italy 24 years later, he told people about inventions like paper, money, pasta, and ice cream.

From about 1325 a Moroccan explorer, Ibn Battuta, explored North Africa, the Middle East, and Asia. He traveled 120,000 kilometers.





## Famous Ocean Explorers

Most early explorers traveled over land, but later, explorers traveled over the ocean. The first explorer to sail from China was Zheng He. In 1405, he sailed south to Indonesia and then across the Indian Ocean and down the east coast of Africa.

A Portuguese explorer, Bartolomeu Dias, was the first explorer to travel west from Europe by ship. In 1488 he sailed from Portugal around the south of Africa. Ten years later another Portuguese explorer, Vasco da Gama, sailed even further and reached India.

Christopher Columbus was an explorer from Genoa, now in Italy. He sailed west from Europe. He reached the West Indies in 1492 and thought he was near India, but he was near a place that no one in Europe knew about – America!

Columbus Arriving in the West Indies





A Portuguese explorer called Ferdinand Magellan was the first explorer to travel to Asia by sailing west from Spain. In 1520 he sailed around South America and across the Pacific Ocean.

Magellan and His Ships



In 1616, some Dutch explorers discovered the west of Australia. In 1642 another Dutch sailor called Abel Tasman discovered New Zealand.

Antarctica was the last continent to be explored. A British sailor called James Cook explored a lot of places. In 1773, he was the first explorer to cross the Antarctic Circle, but he didn't see Antarctica. People think that the first explorers to land on Antarctica were led by a Norwegian explorer called Henryk Bull in 1895.



There are lots of people who explore the past. This helps scientists to understand what is happening on Earth today.

## How Earth Was Made

Geologists are scientists who study rocks to learn how Earth was made and how it has changed. They discovered that Earth is made of hot liquid rock that is covered by big pieces of solid rock called plates. The plates can move, and when they crash into each other, they can push up and make a mountain or a volcano, or they can cause an earthquake. Scientists study how the plates move to try to tell when earthquakes will happen or when volcanoes will erupt.

A Volcano Erupting







A Fish Fossil

## Plants and Animals in the Past

When ancient plants and animals died, they were buried under sand and mud. After a long time, they went hard and changed into fossils. Paleontologists are scientists who study fossils to learn which plants and animals lived on Earth in the past. They have discovered fossilized plants and bones, teeth, eggs, and shells from fish, birds, insects, and other animals that lived up to 500 million years ago. These discoveries give us information about animals that lived a long time ago – like dinosaurs!



Scientists have found fossils of ocean animals at the top of Mount Everest. This means that the rocks on Mount Everest were once under the ocean and were pushed up.







## How People Lived in the Past

Archaeologists study ancient places, buildings, bones, or objects, to learn about how people lived in the past. These things tell us what skills and materials people had, what they believed, and what clothes they wore.

Some old buildings, like the Great Wall of China, are easy to see. Sometimes, the things that archaeologists look for have been buried for a long time, and they have to dig them up very carefully.



The discovery of the Rosetta Stone in Egypt was very important. It helped people to understand the Ancient Egyptian alphabet and to learn about life in Ancient Egypt.





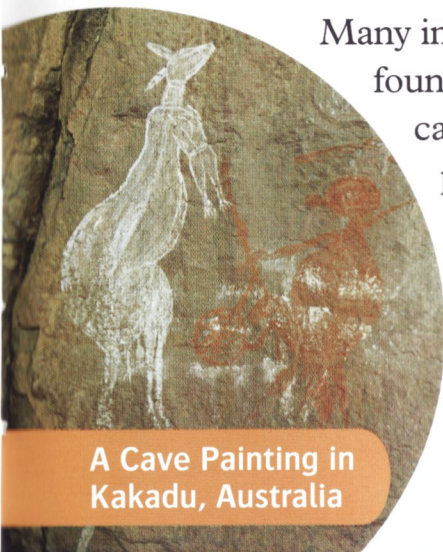
Teotihuacan, Mexico

## Important Discoveries

Many ancient buildings and objects have been found in Central America, for example, in Mexico. By studying these discoveries, archaeologists have learned a lot about how the Mayan people lived about 2,000 years ago, and how the Aztec people lived about 500 years ago.

At Mohenjo Daro, now in Pakistan, archaeologists have found houses from 4,500 years ago with toilets and bathrooms!

Many important discoveries have also been found in caves. In 2009, an archaeologist called Quirino Olivera found cave paintings more than 6,000 years old in the Andes. Cave paintings at Kakadu National Park in Australia tell archaeologists about people and animals who lived there up to 23,000 years ago.



A Cave Painting in Kakadu, Australia



Go to pages 40–41 for activities.



# 4

## Deserts

A desert is an area of land where less than 25 centimeters of rain falls every year. At the moment about 30% of the land on Earth is part of a desert, but deserts are getting bigger.

### Different Types of Desert

There are four types of desert. They form in different ways near the equator, near the ocean, near mountains, or inland. Only 25% of deserts are sandy, and the rest are made from stones. All deserts are very dry, but they can be hot or cold. Antarctica is a desert. It's very cold, but it doesn't snow there very often. The largest hot desert in the world is the Sahara Desert in Africa.

#### The Sahara Desert





### Why Do People Explore Deserts?

People have explored deserts for many years. Early desert explorers went to find things to trade, or new trade routes. Not much grows in the desert, but underground there can be salt, oil, gold, or precious stones like diamonds. Today, explorers want to learn about the people who live in deserts, and some just want an adventure!

Archaeologists have found villages buried under the sand. In 1922 an American explorer, Roy Chapman Andrews, found lots of dinosaur bones in the Gobi Desert in Mongolia.



Explorers keep discovering new things in the desert because the wind blows the sand around and changes the landscape!





## Desert Explorers

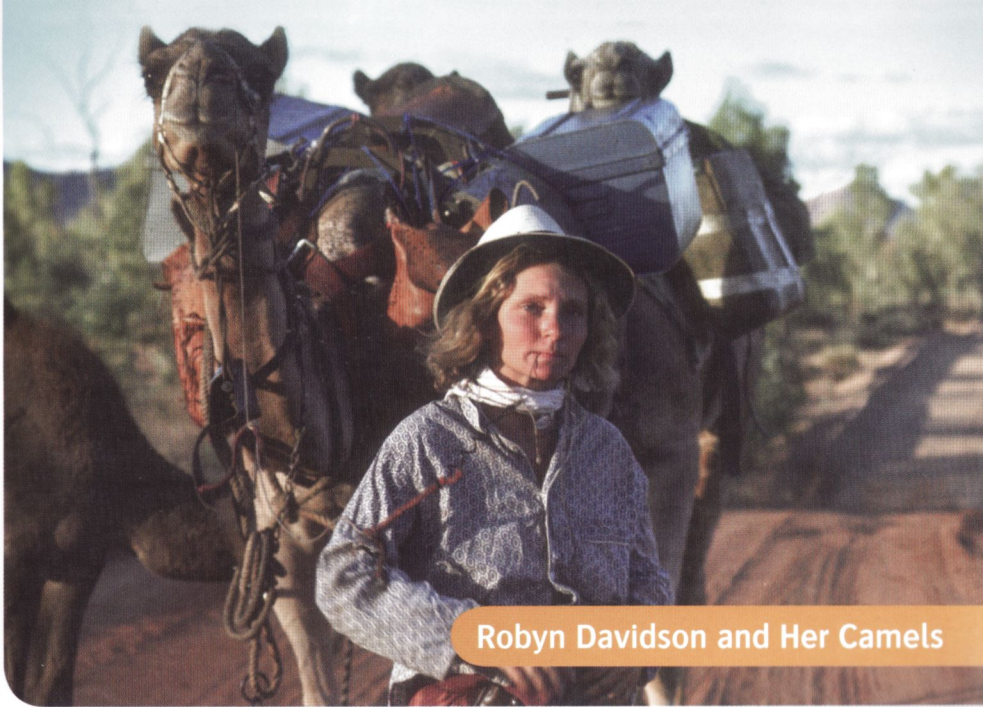
Many early desert explorers wanted to be the first to travel all the way across a desert. The first person to travel across the Sahara Desert was a French explorer called René Caillé. In 1828 he traveled across the Sahara with camels because they can walk a long way without food or water.

In 1887 a British explorer, Francis Younghusband, crossed the Gobi Desert in 70 days. The first women explorers to cross the Gobi Desert were British explorers, Mildred Cable, Evangeline French, and Francesca French, who traveled in a mule-cart in about 1926!

The first European explorers went to the coast of Australia, but no one knew what was in the center. In 1860 two British explorers, Robert Burke and William Wills, and an Australian explorer called John King, were the first explorers to cross Australia from the south to the north. They brought camels from India to help them.

Burke, Wills, and  
King in Australia



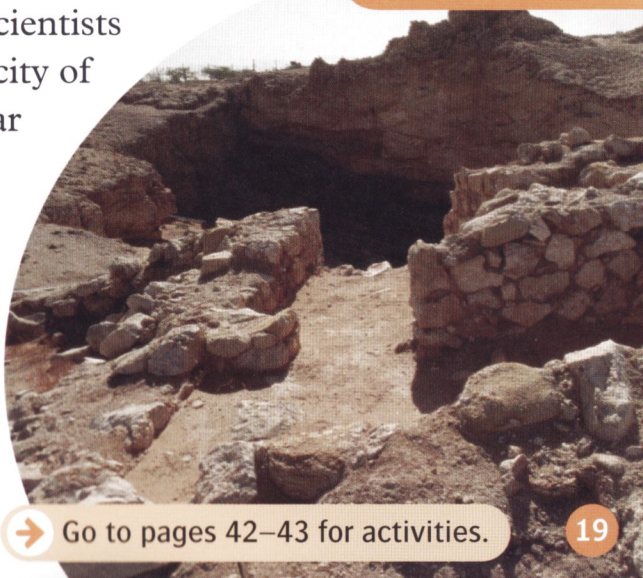


Robyn Davidson and Her Camels

The first woman explorer to cross the Australian Desert from east to west was an Australian explorer called Robyn Davidson. In 1977 she traveled 2,735 kilometers by camel from Alice Springs in central Australia to the west coast.

In 1992, American scientists discovered the 'lost' city of Ubar on a space radar image. Then some explorers led by a British explorer, Ranulph Fiennes, went to find the city in the desert in Oman.

The City of Ubar

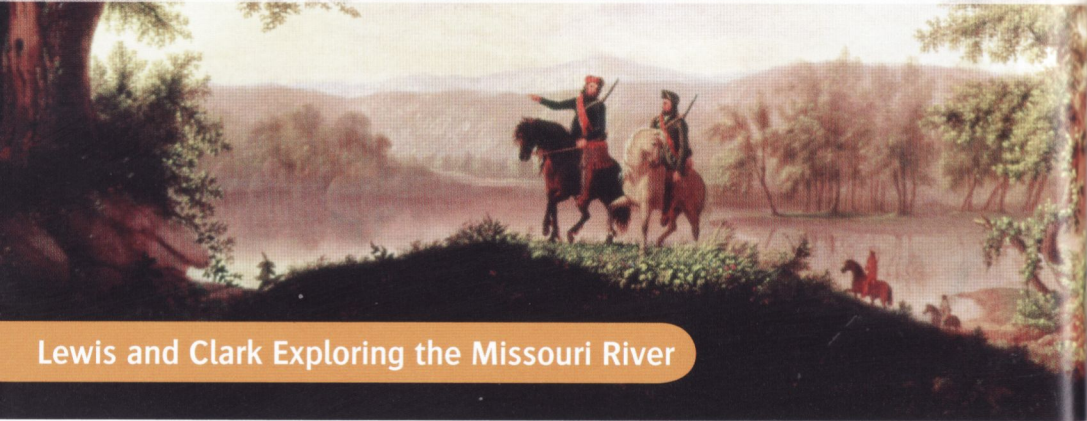




# 5

## Rivers and Rainforests

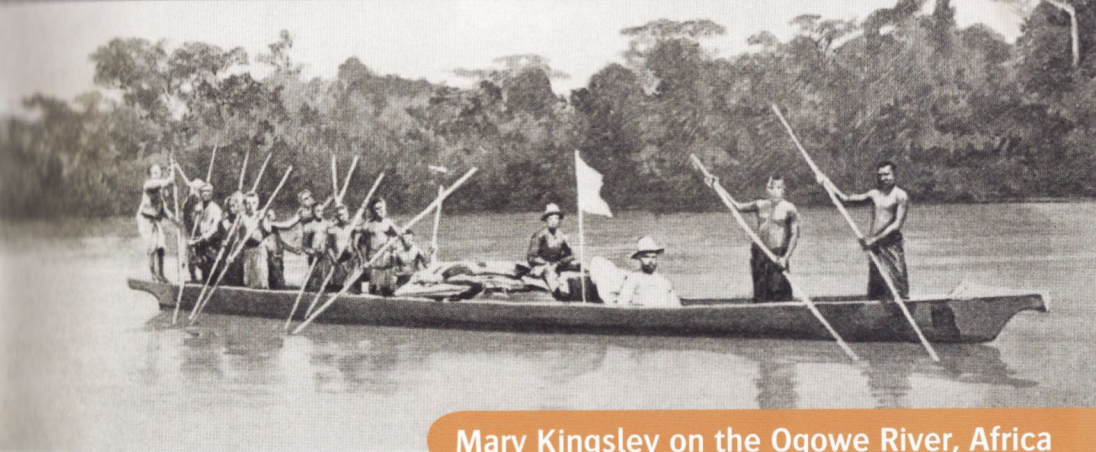
Many parts of the world are hard to explore because they are covered by rainforests or mountains. Explorers often travel by river to get to some of these places.



Lewis and Clark Exploring the Missouri River

### New Trade Routes

In the past, some governments gave explorers money if they found an easier route to another country, because their country could then earn money by trading things. In 1804, American explorers, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, explored the Missouri River to look for a new trade route to the Pacific Ocean. It took them 18 months, but they made it! They drew maps and wrote about the things they saw and the people they met. In 1542 a Spanish explorer called Francisco de Orellana sailed down the Amazon River from its source to the Atlantic Ocean. He found lots of new materials to trade.



Mary Kingsley on the Ogowe River, Africa

## New Discoveries

In 1895 a British explorer called Mary Kingsley traveled along the Ogowe River in Africa to learn about the people there. She also found many new types of fish!

Lots of river explorers wanted to be the first to find the source – where a river starts. Many explorers have tried to find the source of the Nile River in Africa – the longest river in the world. They have all returned with different ideas.

Lake Victoria



Scientists still don't all agree where the source of the Nile is, but most people think that it's Lake Victoria.





## Amazing Rainforests

Rainforests are very important. They only cover 6% of the land on Earth, but more than half of all types of animal and plant on Earth live there. Some rainforest trees have more flowers and fruits than any other trees in the world. Some medicines that we use are made from plants from the rainforests, and scientists think there are lots more plants to be discovered.



Sugar, chocolate, coffee, chewing gum, rubber, and many fruits, nuts, and spices come from rainforests.

## Rainforest Explorers

Many rainforest explorers are scientists looking for new types of plant or animal. In about 1800 a German explorer, Alexander von Humboldt, and a French explorer, Aimé Bonpland, looked for new plants in the South American rainforests.

They returned with new information about people and wildlife.

In 1848 two British explorers, Alfred Russel Wallace and Henry Bates, went to Brazil to look for new insects. Snakes and insects bit them and some people shot at them, but they found 14,712 types of insect including 8,000 new ones!

In the past, explorers only moved along the ground. Today, explorers like this American scientist, Meg Lowman, use special ropes to climb trees and explore the top of the rainforest.



Meg Lowman Exploring a Rainforest



Go to pages 44–45 for activities.



## 6

# The Arctic and Antarctic

The Arctic and Antarctic were the last places to be explored. Early explorers went to see what was there, and later, others went to look for the minerals and ocean animals that were found by early explorers.



## Reaching the Poles

Early explorers wanted to be first to reach the ends of the Earth – the Poles. Modern explorers try to get to the Poles more quickly or by using different vehicles, for example, a hot-air balloon.



Near the Poles, the sun doesn't go down in summer – this is called the midnight sun.



## What's at the Poles?

The Arctic is like a giant ice cube! There's no land there – just ice and water. The Antarctic has land, too – it's called Antarctica. In the past, the Antarctic was warm. Scientists have found fossils there of the same plants and animals that they have found in Australia and South America. They also found fossils of eight types of dinosaur! Today there are lots of scientific research stations in Antarctica. Scientists study the wildlife, ice, fossils, weather, and climate to help us to understand more about Earth. There are oil, gas, and minerals under both places, but they are hard to get to through the ice.

### A Research Station, Antarctica





## The Arctic and the North Pole

The first Arctic explorers came from Asia. They wanted to find new land to live on and animals to hunt. The first European explorers arrived in about 1500. They were looking for a shorter trade route to Asia from Europe through the Arctic.

In 1728, a Danish explorer, Vitus Bering, was the first explorer to find the Northeast Passage around Russia. In 1906, a Norwegian explorer, Roald Amundsen, found a way around the top of Alaska – now called the Northwest Passage.

Most people believe that the first explorer to get to the North Pole was an American explorer, Robert Peary, in 1909.

Robert Peary's Team  
at the North Pole





Roald Amundsen at the South Pole

## The Antarctic and the South Pole

Roald Amundsen, and a British explorer, Robert Scott, raced to be first to the South Pole. Amundsen got to the Pole first in December 1911. He used skis and dog sleds, and returned safely with all his men. Scott's men walked, pulling everything on sleds. They got to the Pole a few weeks later and found that Amundsen's Norwegian flag was already there. Sadly, Scott and his team died on the way back.

The first explorers to cross Antarctica were led by a British explorer called Vivian Fuchs in 1958. In 2001 an American explorer, Ann Bancroft, and a Norwegian explorer, Liv Arnesen, were the first women to cross it.





# 7

## Mountains

Mountains cover about 25% of Earth. They are made of rocks and soil, and they are much higher than the land around them. They form when underground plates crash together and push the land up. This takes millions of years.

### Record-Breaking Mountains

The biggest mountain chain is the Himalayas in Asia. Mount Everest, the highest mountain in the world, is in the Himalayas. Everest is still growing about 5 millimeters every year.

The longest mountain chain is under the ocean! The Mid-Atlantic Ridge under the Atlantic Ocean is 16,000 kilometers long. The longest mountain chain on land is the Andes in South America.

The Andes Mountains



## Why Do People Explore Mountains?

Geologists look at the rocks in mountains to learn more about how Earth was made. Some mountain explorers have found metals like gold, silver, copper, and tin. They have also found precious stones like rubies and emeralds, and rocks, like granite and limestone. Some mountain plants, like the snow lotus, are used to make medicines.

Mountain archaeologists look for ancient remains on the top of mountains. In 1999, Constanza Ceruti from Argentina was exploring 6,739 meters high at the top of the Llullaillaco Volcano between Argentina and Chile. She and Johan Reinhold found food pots, gold and silver statues, and three Inca mummies that were 500 years old.



Constanza Ceruti, Argentina





## Mountain Explorers

Mountain explorers often want to be the first to climb a mountain. A Frenchman called Antoine de Ville climbed Mont Aiguille in the Alps in 1492.

Later, some people gave explorers money to climb mountains to see what was there. Michel Gabriel Paccard and Jacques Balmat climbed Mont Blanc for a prize in 1786. Another French explorer called Marie Paradis was the first woman to climb Mont Blanc in 1808.

The first people to get to the top of Mount Everest were Edmund Hillary from New Zealand and Tenzing Norgay from Nepal in 1953. About 2,000 people have climbed to the top of Everest, but more than 200 of them never returned. Modern explorers try and find new ways to climb it.

The first woman to get to the top of Everest was a Japanese climber called Junko Tabei in 1975. In 1992 she also became the first woman to climb the highest mountain in each of the seven continents.

### Climbers in the Himalayas



The youngest person to climb Everest is a Nepalese girl called Ming Kipa Sherpa. She climbed it with her brother and sister in 2003 when she was just 15 years old.



Go to pages 48–49 for activities.



# 8

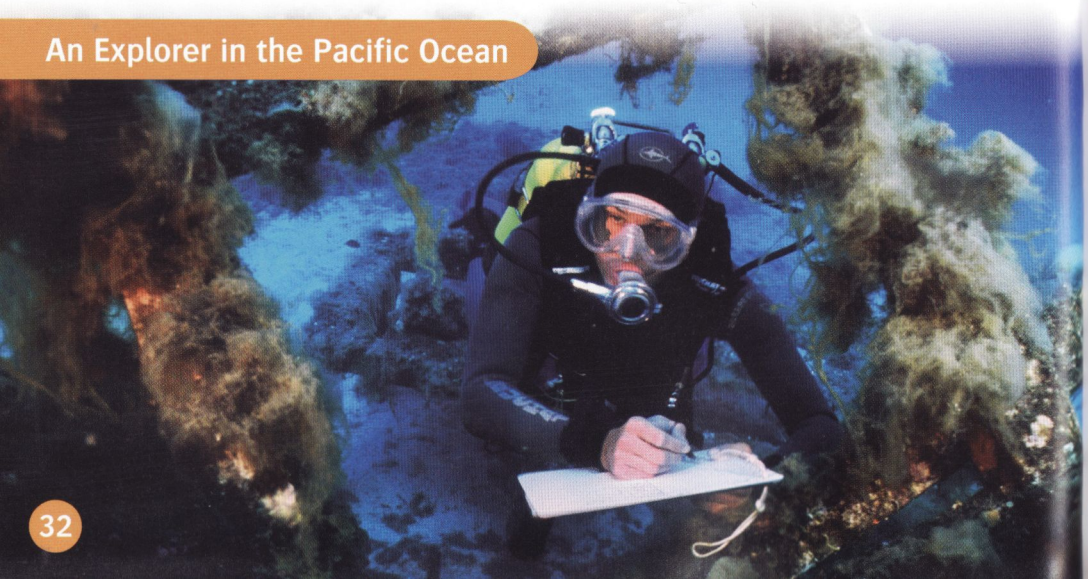
# Oceans

After exploring most of the land, people started to explore under the oceans. The oceans are enormous – they cover about 70% of Earth. There are still thousands of kilometers of seabed to be explored.

## What Do We Know?

There are five oceans, but more than half of all the water in the oceans is in just one ocean – the Pacific Ocean. At first, scientists thought that the seabed was flat, but now we know that there are mountains, valleys, volcanoes, and plains under the water. By studying the seabed, scientists have learned that the oceans started to form 4,000 million years ago. They have found bones from land animals on the seabed, which shows that the sea level is much higher now.

### An Explorer in the Pacific Ocean





## What's in the Oceans?

The oceans are full of amazing plants and animals. Some ocean plants, like seaweed, can be used to make medicines. Today, scientists know about 25,000 different types of fish. They find more than 100 new types every year.

There are lots of precious things in the oceans. Pearls are jewels that can form inside oyster shells. There are metals like gold, iron, and copper in the seabed, too. More than 20% of all the oil that we use comes from under the oceans.



There's enough salt in the oceans to cover Earth with up to 150 meters of salt.





## Ocean Explorers

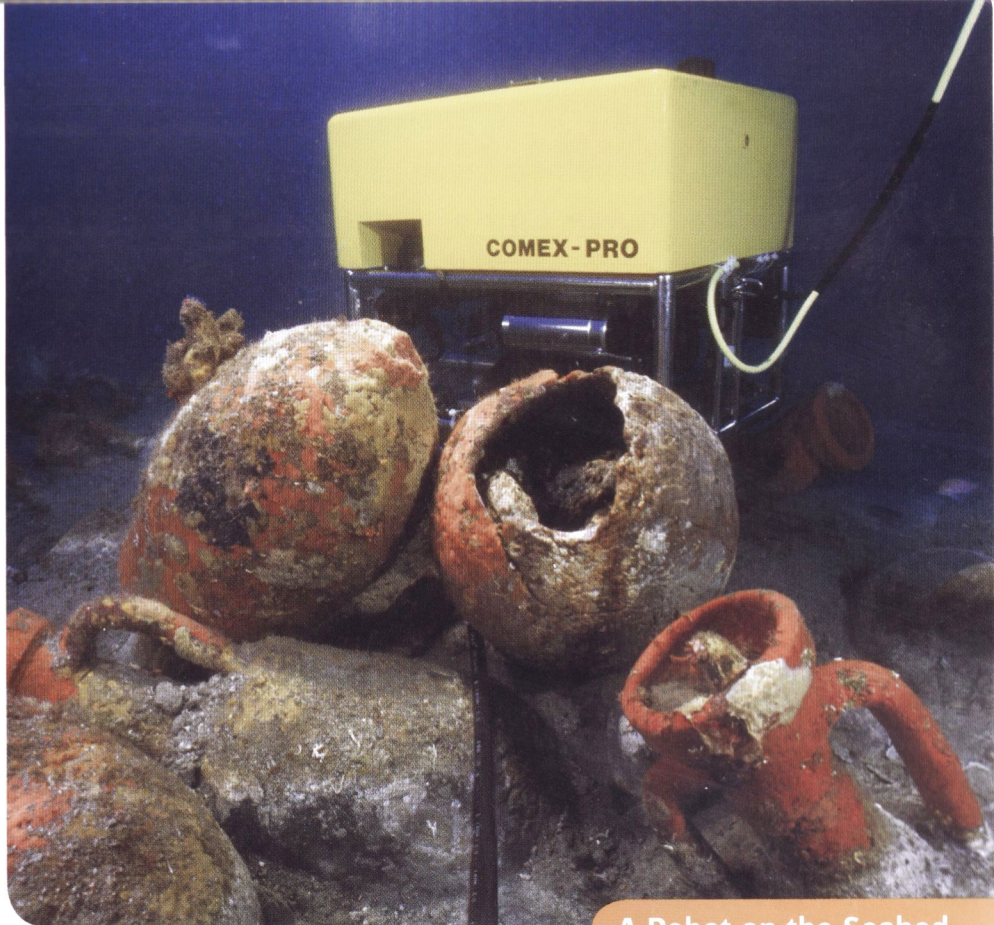
Early ocean explorers could only explore for as long as they could breathe. In 1943, two Frenchmen, Jacques Cousteau and Emile Gagnan, invented Self Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus (SCUBA). This allowed divers to stay underwater for longer and dive deeper than ever before.

In 1960, a Swiss explorer, Jacques Piccard, and an American, Don Walsh, dived down almost 11 kilometers in a small submarine to the deepest part of the Pacific Ocean. It's the deepest that anyone has dived. No one thought anything could live that far down, but they found some new types of fish.

An American explorer called Silvia Alice Earle holds the record for the deepest woman diver in a submersible. She has spent more than 7,000 hours underwater.

Ocean Explorers  
Using a Submersible





A Robot on the Seabed

## What Next?

Modern explorers have better equipment and they can explore further than ever before, but they don't even have to go anywhere. Today we can send robots to explore places and bring back information!

The oceans are the least explored part of Earth, but there are still things to find in rainforests, mountains to climb, and thousands of places to explore. What part of our world would you like to explore?



# 1

# Exploring



Read pages 4–7.

## 1 Write the words.

river map mountain  
forest compass satellite



1 mountain



2 \_\_\_\_\_



3 \_\_\_\_\_



4 \_\_\_\_\_



5 \_\_\_\_\_



6 \_\_\_\_\_

## 2 Write *true* or *false*.

1 Explorers have changed the world.

true

2 Early people traveled to find food.

\_\_\_\_\_

3 Explorers aren't curious.

\_\_\_\_\_

4 Explorers want to discover new places.

\_\_\_\_\_

5 Some early explorers hoped to get sick.

\_\_\_\_\_

6 Some early explorers wanted to find new things to sell.

\_\_\_\_\_

7 Some explorers want to be last to find something.

\_\_\_\_\_

8 Some explorers want to be famous.

\_\_\_\_\_

### 3 Order the words.

1 explorers / Early / find / new / wanted /to / places.

Early explorers wanted to find new places.

2 deserts, / They / mountains. / explored / rivers, / and

3 land / They / crossed / oceans. / and / explored

4 to / want / new / somewhere / a / Explorers / go / way.

5 travel. / Some / look / ways / for / new / explorers / to

6 be / Others / to / want / something. / the / to / fastest / do

### 4 Complete the sentences.

instruments maps mountains  
stars rivers compass north

1 Early explorers used the stars to find their way.

2 Explorers wrote about their journeys and made \_\_\_\_\_.

3 They drew \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ on the maps.

4 About 2,200 years ago Chinese people invented the  
\_\_\_\_\_.

5 A compass always points \_\_\_\_\_.

6 Modern explorers can use GPS \_\_\_\_\_.



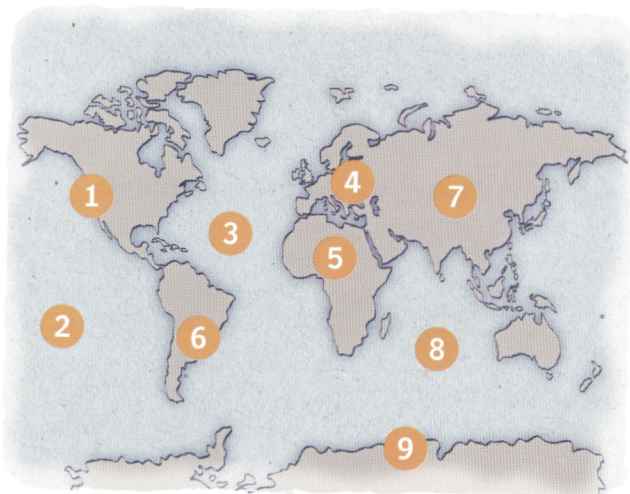
# 2

## Early Explorers

← Read pages 8–11.

### 1 Write the words.

Antarctica North America Asia  
Africa Atlantic Ocean Pacific Ocean  
Europe South America Indian Ocean



- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 \_\_\_\_\_

### 2 Correct the sentences.

1 Early people traveled around to look for rocks.

Early people traveled around to look for food.

2 Zhang Qian was an early explorer from Europe.

\_\_\_\_\_

3 Marco Polo traveled from Africa to China.

\_\_\_\_\_

4 Ibn Battuta explored North America, the Middle East, and Asia.

\_\_\_\_\_

### 3 Match. Then write complete sentences.

1405	Vasco da Gama	from Europe to Asia
1488	Ferdinand Magellan	to New Zealand
1492	Abel Tasman	to the Antarctic
1498	Zheng He	from Europe to India
1520	James Cook	from China to East Africa
1642	Bartolomeu Dias	from Europe to America
1773	Henryk Bull	from Europe to Africa
1895	Christopher Columbus	to Antarctica

1 In 1405, Zheng He traveled from China to East Africa.

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_

5 \_\_\_\_\_

6 \_\_\_\_\_

7 \_\_\_\_\_

8 \_\_\_\_\_

4 Which explorer do you think was the most important?  
Why? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# 3

## Exploring the Past

← Read pages 12–15.

### 1 Circle the correct words.

- 1 Exploring the past helps scientists to read / understand what is happening today.
- 2 Geologists study weather / rocks to learn how Earth was made.
- 3 Earth is made of pieces of solid rock called cups / plates.
- 4 When the plates crash they can cause an earthquake / a storm.
- 5 Paleontologists study buildings / fossils to learn about plants and animals in the past.
- 6 Fossils give us information about plants and plates / animals from a long time ago.

### 2 Complete the sentences.

explore the past   make a mountain   on Mount Everest  
earthquakes will happen   under the ocean

- 1 There are lots of people who \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 When plates crash, they push up and \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 Scientists study plates to tell when \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 Paleontologists have discovered fossils \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 The rocks on Mount Everest were once \_\_\_\_\_.

### 3 Complete the chart.

wore made fossils ~~geologists~~ rocks  
archaeologists animals paleontologists

Who?	What do they find or study?	What does this tell us?
<u>geologists</u>	_____	how Earth was _____ and how it changed
_____	_____	which plants and _____ lived a long time ago
_____	ancient buildings or objects	what people did, believed, and _____

### 4 Answer the questions.

- 1 What did the Rosetta Stone help people to understand?

It helped them to understand the Ancient Egyptian alphabet.

- 2 Where was the Rosetta Stone found?

\_\_\_\_\_

- 3 What have archaeologists learned from ancient buildings in Mexico?

\_\_\_\_\_

- 4 How old were the houses found in Mohenjo Daro?

\_\_\_\_\_

- 5 What have archaeologists found in Kakadu National Park?

\_\_\_\_\_

- 6 Where did Quirino Olivera find paintings?

\_\_\_\_\_



# 4

## Deserts



Read pages 16–19.

### 1 Complete the sentences.

- 1 At the moment about 30% of the land on Earth is part of a desert. (30% / 50%)
- 2 A desert is an area of land where \_\_\_\_\_ than 25 centimeters of rain falls every year. (less / more)
- 3 Deserts are getting \_\_\_\_\_. (smaller / bigger)
- 4 There are \_\_\_\_\_ types of desert. (four / five)
- 5 Only 25% of deserts are \_\_\_\_\_. (rocky / sandy)
- 6 All deserts are \_\_\_\_\_, but they can be hot or cold. (dry / wet)
- 7 The largest \_\_\_\_\_ desert in the world is the Sahara Desert. (cold / hot)

### 2 Match.

- 1 People have explored deserts
- 2 Some early desert explorers went to
- 3 Some explorers want to learn
- 4 Some explorers want
- 5 There can be salt, oil, or gold
- 6 Archaeologists have found villages
- 7 An American explorer found

under deserts.  
buried under the sand.  
dinosaur bones in the Gobi Desert.  
for many years.  
find new trade routes.  
about the people who live in deserts.  
an adventure.

### 3 Correct the sentences.

1 Many early desert explorers went to find deserts to trade.

\_\_\_\_\_

2 René Caillé traveled across the Sahara Desert by train.

\_\_\_\_\_

3 Camels can walk a long way without food or clothes.

\_\_\_\_\_

4 Francis Younghusband crossed the Australian Desert.

\_\_\_\_\_

5 Robyn Davidson crossed the Sahara Desert in 1977.

\_\_\_\_\_

### 4 Complete the chart.

new famous lost hot

Good things about being a desert explorer:	Bad things about being a desert explorer:
you could find something _____	it's easy to get _____
you could become _____	it's very _____ or very cold

### 5 Would you like to be a desert explorer? Why / Why not?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# 5

## Rivers and Rainforests

← Read pages 20–23.

### 1 Write *true* or *false*.


- 1 Countries can earn money by trading things with each other. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Governments sometimes gave explorers food if they found a new route. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Lots of explorers wanted to be the first to find the source of a river. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 The River Nile is the longest river in the world. \_\_\_\_\_

### 2 Complete the sentences.


land rainforest flowers climb discover plants

- 1 Rainforests cover 6% of the \_\_\_\_\_ on Earth.
- 2 More than half of the animals and \_\_\_\_\_ on Earth live in rainforests.
- 3 Rainforest trees have more fruits and \_\_\_\_\_ than other trees.
- 4 Some medicines are made from \_\_\_\_\_ plants.
- 5 Scientists think that there are more plants to \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6 Modern rainforest explorers use special ropes to \_\_\_\_\_ the trees.


### 3 Find and write the words.




1




2




3




4




5




6



7



8



9

s	m	s	p	i	c	e	s	o	r
p	e	a	r	t	a	x	n	b	u
e	d	k	a	u	t	e	g	n	b
s	i	l	d	t	c	l	t	u	b
u	c	h	o	c	o	l	a	t	e
g	i	c	o	e	f	f	v	s	r
a	n	h	p	w	f	r	u	i	t
r	e	o	s	s	e	a	t	m	s
o	s	b	i	o	e	r	s	o	o
c	h	e	w	i	n	g	g	u	m

- 1 spices

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_

5 \_\_\_\_\_

6 \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_

8 \_\_\_\_\_

9 \_\_\_\_\_

### 4 Answer the questions.

- 1 What are many rainforest explorers looking for?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Which river did Meriwether Lewis and William Clark explore? Where is it?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3 What did Mary Kingsley find in the Ogowe River?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4 What did Alfred Russel Wallace and Henry Bates find in Brazil?  
\_\_\_\_\_



# 6

## The Arctic and Antarctic



Read pages 24–27.

### 1 Complete the sentences.

see quickly minerals  
Antarctic ends vehicles

- 1 The Arctic and \_\_\_\_\_ were the last places to be explored.
- 2 Early explorers went to \_\_\_\_\_ what was there.
- 3 Later, other explorers went to look for \_\_\_\_\_ and ocean animals.
- 4 Early explorers wanted to be first to reach the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Earth.
- 5 Modern explorers try to get to the Poles more \_\_\_\_\_ or by using different \_\_\_\_\_.

### 2 Write *Arctic* or *Antarctic*.

- 1 In the past, it was warm. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 It has land. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 It's like a giant ice cube. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Scientists have found fossils there. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 The first explorers went there from Asia. \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 There are lots of research stations there today. \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 The North Pole is there. \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 The South Pole is there. \_\_\_\_\_

**3 Match. Then write complete sentences.**

1500

1728

1906

1909

1911

1958

2001

Vivian Fuchs

Roald Amundsen

European explorers

Robert Peary

Roald Amundsen

Ann Bancroft and

Liv Arnesen

Vitus Bering

found the Northwest  
Passage

crossed Antarctica

were the first women  
to cross Antarctica

reached the Arctic

sailed into the Northeast  
Passage

reached the South Pole

reached the North Pole

1 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_

5 \_\_\_\_\_

6 \_\_\_\_\_

7 \_\_\_\_\_

**4 Would you like to be a polar explorer? Which Pole would you visit? Why / Why not?**

---

---

---

---



# 7 Mountains

← Read pages 28–31.

## 1 Correct the sentences.

1 Mountains are lower than the land around them.

\_\_\_\_\_

2 Mountains cover about 50% of Earth.

\_\_\_\_\_

3 The smallest mountain chain is the Himalayas.

\_\_\_\_\_

4 Mount Everest is growing about 5 millimeters every week.

\_\_\_\_\_

5 The Mid-Atlantic Ridge is under the Pacific Ocean.

\_\_\_\_\_

6 The tallest mountain chain on land is the Andes.

\_\_\_\_\_

## 2 Why do explorers climb mountains? Write four answers.

1 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_

### 3 Complete the sentences.

- 1 Explorers have found precious \_\_\_\_\_ in some mountains. (stones / money)
- 2 Some mountain plants are used to make \_\_\_\_\_. (medicines / clothes)
- 3 Marie Paradis was the \_\_\_\_\_ woman to climb Mont Blanc. (first / last)
- 4 About 2,000 \_\_\_\_\_ have climbed to the top of Mount Everest. (people / fish)
- 5 Junko Tabei was the first woman to climb the \_\_\_\_\_ mountain in each continent. (shortest / highest)

### 4 Complete the chart.

Mont Aiguille Ming Kipa Sherpa Edmund Hillary volcano  
Mont Blanc 1808 Everest Gabriel Paccard 1975

Year	Explorer	Mountain Fact
1492	Antoine de Ville	first person to climb _____
1786	_____ and Jacques Balmat	climbed _____ for a prize
1953	_____ and Tenzing Norgay	first people to reach the top of Everest
_____	Junko Tabei	first woman to climb _____
1999	Constanza Ceruti	found Inca mummies at the top of a _____
2003	_____	youngest person to climb Everest



# 8

# Oceans









Read pages 32–35.

## 1 Circle the correct words.

- 1 The oceans are **enormous** / famous.
- 2 There are **five** / seven oceans.
- 3 More than **half** / a quarter of the water is in the Pacific Ocean.
- 4 At first, scientists thought that the seabed was **round** / flat.
- 5 There are mountains, valleys, and **plains** / planes under the water.
- 6 Sea level is **higher** / lower now than in the past.

## 2 Complete the sentences.

- 1 More than 20% of all the  \_\_\_\_\_ that we use comes from the oceans.
- 2 There's enough  \_\_\_\_\_ in the oceans to cover Earth up to 150 meters.
- 3  \_\_\_\_\_ are jewels that can form inside oyster shells.
- 4 Today, scientists know about 25,000 types of  \_\_\_\_\_ in the oceans.
- 5 There are metals like gold,  \_\_\_\_\_, and copper in the seabed.
- 6 Some ocean plants, like  \_\_\_\_\_, can be used to make medicines.

### 3 Order the words.

1 Oceans / full / are / animals. / of / plants / amazing /and

---

2 more / 100 / Scientists / new / find / of / year. / fish /  
every / types / than

---

3 explore / for / Early / long / as / explorers / could / only /  
ocean / could / as / they / breathe.

---

4 1960 / explorers / In / dived / two / to / deepest / the /  
of / Pacific / part / the / Ocean.

---

### 4 Answer the questions.

1 What did Jacques Piccard and Don Walsh dive in?

---

2 What did they find?

---

3 How long has Silvia Alice Earle spent underwater?

---

4 Why don't modern explorers have to go anywhere?

---

### 5 Where would you like to explore and why?

---

---



# Project 1

## Famous Places

- 1 These places have the same name as the explorers who found them. Look in books or on the Internet and find out where they are.

Cook Islands   Bering Strait   Tasmania

- 2 Write notes about the explorers who found these places.

James Cook \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Vitus Bering \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Abel Tasman \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

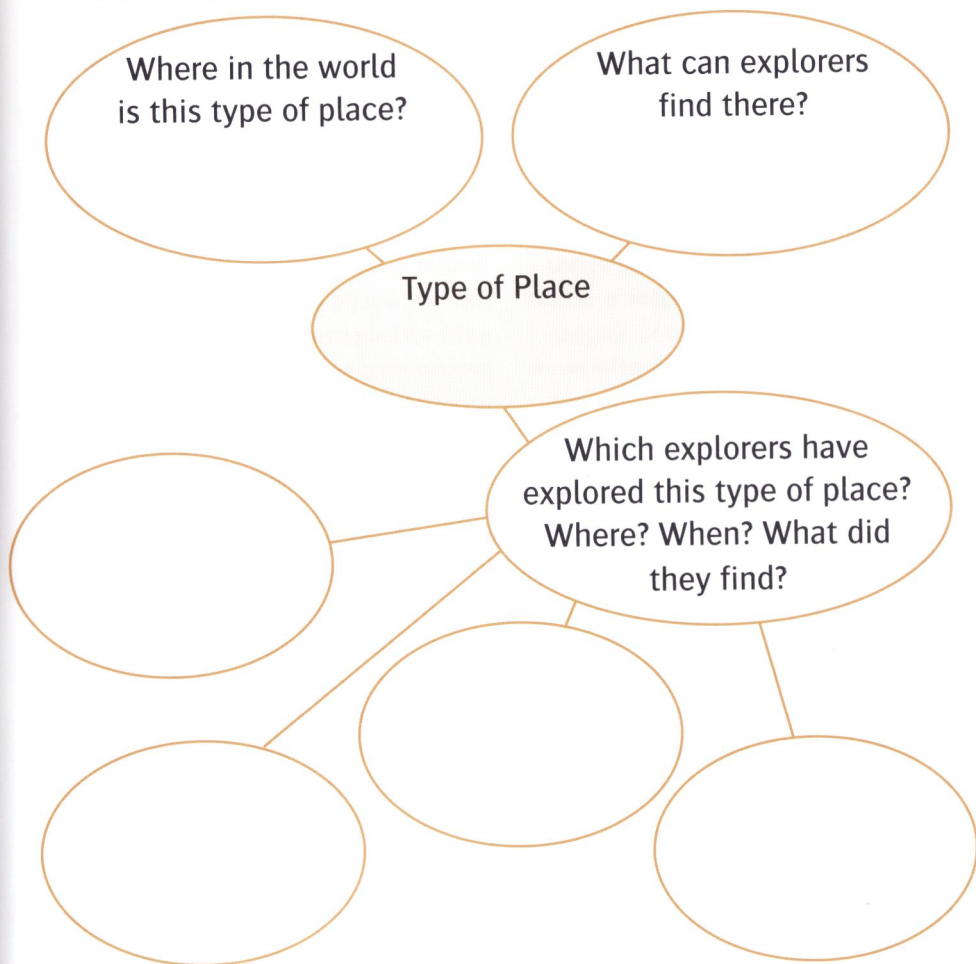
\_\_\_\_\_

- 3 Do you know any other places that have the same name as a famous explorer? Are there any in your country?

- 4 Write about the places and display your work.

# An Exploring Poster

- 1 Choose one type of place, for example, deserts or rainforests.
- 2 Look in books or on the Internet. Write notes about this type of place.



- 3 Make a poster about this type of place. Write sentences and add pictures, maps, and photos. Display your poster.



# Glossary

Here are some words used in this book, and you can check what they mean. Use a dictionary to check other new words.

- agree** to think the same thing
- allow** to make something possible
- ancient** from thousands of years in the past
- archaeologist** someone who studies history, by looking at ancient objects
- area** a part of a place
- become** to change into; to start to be
- believe** to think that something is true
- bite** to break something with your teeth
- blow** to move with the wind
- bone** the hard part of a skeleton
- breathe** to take in and let out air through your nose and mouth
- bury** to put a person into the ground when they are not living any more
- cause** to make something happen
- center** the middle
- chain** a line of mountains
- change** to become different; to make something different
- climate** the usual type of weather in a country
- coast** the land next to the sea or ocean
- coffee** a hot drink made from coffee beans
- cover** to put something over something; to be over something
- cross** to move from one side to another
- cure** something that makes a medical problem go away
- curious** wanting to know more about something
- deep** going a long way down
- die** to stop living
- dig up** to get something out of the ground
- dinosaur** an animal that lived millions of years ago
- disease** a medical problem that makes you very sick
- dive** to swim underwater
- earn** to get money for work that you do
- earthquake** when the ground moves
- end** the part of a thing that is farthest from the center
- enormous** very big
- equipment** things that help you to do something
- famous** known by many people
- flag** a piece of material with a special design for a country
- forest** a place with a lot of trees
- form** to make or be made
- fruit** the part of a plant that has a stone or seeds
- further** a longer way
- gas** not a solid or liquid; like air
- gold** an expensive yellow metal
- ground** the land that we stand on
- grow** to get bigger
- half** one of two parts
- hot-air balloon** a balloon that people can fly in
- hunt** to try to catch animals to kill them
- ice cube** a small, square piece of ice used to make drinks cold
- inland** far from the ocean
- insect** a very small animal with six legs
- invent** to make or design something new
- jewel** a precious stone
- land** when a plane or boat touches the land
- landscape** what the land is like
- language** the words that people speak and write
- lead** to be the first in a group
- liquid** not a solid or gas; like water
- material** something that we use to make other things

- medicine** something that you take when you are sick, to make you better
- metal** a hard material made from minerals
- mineral** a material, like gold or salt, that's in the ground
- modern** not from the past
- move** to go from one place to another
- mule-cart** a vehicle that is pulled by an animal like a horse
- mummy** (*plural mummies*) a dead body covered with soft material
- object** a thing
- ocean** the salt water that covers most of Earth
- oil** a fuel; it's a black liquid used to make gasoline
- oyster** an ocean animal with a shell
- past** many years ago
- plain** a large area of flat land
- precious** special and expensive
- prize** something you get when you win
- push** to make something move away; the opposite of pull
- race** to try and go somewhere faster than someone else
- record** for example, the best or highest thing that there is
- remains** parts of ancient objects
- remote** far from other places
- return** to come back
- river** water on land that goes to the ocean
- robot** a machine that is moved by a computer
- rock** a very hard, natural material
- route** the way you go to get from one place to another
- rubber** a soft material that you use to make tires
- safely** not being damaged
- satellite** a machine that goes into space
- seabed** the floor of the ocean
- sea level** how high the water is in the sea or ocean
- shell** the hard, outside part of an egg or of some animals
- ship** a large boat
- shoot** to use a gun
- silk** a soft material that is used to make clothes
- skill** something someone can do well
- sled** a vehicle that travels over snow
- snake** an animal with a thin body and no legs
- solid** not a liquid or gas; like hard rock
- special** different and important
- spend** to use time doing something
- spice** seeds or powder from plants that we use to give taste to food
- statue** a shape of a person or animal made of stone or metal
- stone** a very hard, natural material
- submarine** a ship that can travel underwater
- top** the highest part
- trade** to buy and sell things
- treasure** a special, expensive object
- valley** the land between hills or mountains
- vehicle** something for moving goods or people
- village** a few houses in the countryside; smaller than a town
- without** not having something; not doing something





# Oxford Read and Discover

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